whether it is a fact that even after 60 years of independence, socio-economic conditions of the oppressed people had not improved; and

if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) The comparative budget allocation for the last three years is as follows:

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Total allocation	For Scheduled Castes
2004-05	1237.34	905.10
2005-06	1539.032	1148.75
2006-07	1686.11	1285.17

Ministry of Tribal Affairs: (Rs. in crores)

Year	Total allocation	For Scheduled Tribes
2004-05	1069.45	1053.06
2005-06	1398.82	1391.95
2006-07	1652.68	1648.14

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Coverage of **Old Age Homes**

442**.** SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

the total coverage of senior citizens under the Old Age Homes scheme; and

how many needy aged persons are left uncovered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) About 43800 senior citizens benefited from the Old Age Homes supported by the Ministry in the year . 2006-07.

(b) No records are available within the Ministry about the persons who may need the services of old age homes being funded under the Scheme.

Rehabilitation of differently abled persons in Tamil Nadu

443. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented by Government for the rehabilitation of differently abled persons in Tamil Nadu;